Research into Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) at UWA has physicians all over the world rethinking patterns of treatment.

The main study in Dr Karen Wallman’s PhD thesis on graded exercise in CFS made the front cover of the Medical Journal of Australia this month, and, since publication, the Human Movement and Exercise Science graduate has received many emails from all over the world, congratulating her on her research.

CFS, which can last for several years, affects thousands of Australians. Sufferers experience exhaustion accompanied by flu-like symptoms. It is most common in people under 45, and exercise has usually been a ‘dirty’ word for them. Dr Wallman says a very conservative estimate of the people in Australia with CFS is 0.2 per cent of the population.

“In other countries like the UK, the estimate is closer to two percent. But even at this rate, the disease costs the community $525 million annually – a cost that looks like it could be dramatically decreased with our simple exercise regime.

Continued on page 2 ➤
“There had been previous studies on the effect of exercise on people with CFS, but I took a graded approach,” Dr Wallman said. “We started our group of 31 people with chronic fatigue on just five minutes exercise a day. When they were up to it, we increased it, gently, to seven minutes, then ten, with the eventual goal of 30 minutes a day, which might take six months to achieve.

“Symptoms in CFS are, typically, cyclical. They have good days and bad days. On their good days, they tend to overdo things: clean the whole house, paint a room, walk for an hour. They want to make up for all the time they couldn’t do things.

“But a good day is usually followed by a relapse. So activity and exercise are associated with relapse and avoided in an attempt to control symptoms.

“Our exercise group was told to take a day off their exercise routine when they felt bad, not to push themselves. But, more importantly, and this is the difference between our study and previous ones, we insisted that participants stick to their routine exercise on their good days, and not increase their activity, even though they may have felt they could, to avoid a relapse the next day.”

At the end of three months intervention, 91 per cent of participants said they felt better or much better. They could do more work or activity, with less effort and they felt less fatigue and depression.

“They showed improvements in every area: physiological, psychological and cognitive,” Dr Wallman said. The control group, who spent three months doing daily relaxation and meditation, did not show any significant improvement in any variable assessed.

“I’m overwhelmed with the response to my work,” Dr Wallman said. “I wouldn’t have been able to do it alone. I had terrific support from Human Movement and Exercise Science, especially from Emeritus Professor Alan Morton, Dr Carmel Goodman, Professor Bob Grove and particularly Professor Brian Blanksby.”

Dr Karen Wallman succeeded with a gentle approach to exercise for chronic fatigue sufferers

Continued on page 1

Exercise beats fatigue

Continued on next page

Having an ear for music is always a good start for a musician but, these days, it’s not enough.

Music students, musicians, educators and other music professionals all need, at some time in their career, to be able to convert music they have heard into a written version. Musical transcription is an enormously useful skill but one that can be very difficult to learn.

Teaching musical transcription skills to students just took a significant step forward, with the launch of the Tunecatcher educational software, a product resulting from research in metacognition by Master’s student Scott Lewis (School of Computer Science and Software Engineering) and his supervisors, Dr Sam Leong from the School of Music, Associate Professor Richard Thomas (CSSE), and Dr Leong’s Canadian collaborator, Dr Martin Lamb.

Tunecatcher (www.tunecatcher.com.au) allows students to learn at their own pace, logging and analysing any incorrect attempts.

The team’s successful application for a Pathfinder award enabled them to develop a commercial software product. The Pathfinder Fund was established by The Office of Industry and Innovation (OII) in 2002, and provides early-stage funding to support the commercialisation of UWA Intellectual Property. As part of that process, Andrew Beveridge from OII, provided guidance and mentoring to the Tunecatcher team during the commercialisation process.

“It’s really encouraging to see commercial products coming from areas

Continued on next page

Putting Einstein to the test

Light speed results could rewrite physics laws

Dr Peter Wolf, Associate Professor Michael Tobar, honours student Mohammed Susli and PhD student Paul Stanwix will set the sapphire clocks in motion here to test the theories of the world’s greatest physicist of the University such as the School of Music,” Mr Beveridge said. “Traditionally, it’s the areas such as medicine, engineering and science that generate most of the commercial potential for universities, though OII is seeing a diverse mix of commercialisation projects from right across the spectrum. Initial reaction to the Tunecatcher product has been positive, and we are hopeful that this will translate into commercial success.”

One of Dr Leong’s challenges with Tunecatcher was to develop an e-commerce platform that interfaced with UWA’s financial systems. This challenge was addressed by one of UWA’s graduates, Voon-Li Chung, managing director of picoSpace. The IT company provided the expertise to design and implement Tunecatcher’s e-commerce system, so it could be sold over the Internet.

Mr Chung said that many people with a product ideally suited to sale via the web were being stopped by a combination of trepidation and a lack of the necessary information.

Einstein’s theories underpin all of modern day physics.

But was he right?

Researchers in the Frequency Standards and Metrology (FSM) group in the School of Physics are collaborating with a French group at the Paris Observatory to see if Einstein’s theories will hold up under testing of much greater precision than was possible when he developed his theory of relativity in 1905.

Einstein’s theory explained the results recorded by Michelson and Morley in 1887 who failed to obtain evidence for any variation of the speed of light regardless of their measurements relative to the Earth’s motion.

Just prior to Einstein publishing his theory of relativity, Dutch physicist Hendrick Lorentz cemented one of the cornerstones of relativity: that the laws of physics remain constant irrespective of the frame of reference. This became known as the Lorentz invariance and is one of the fundamental postulates of relativity.

A violation of the Lorentz invariance is what Associate Professor Michael Tobar, his French collaborator Dr Peter Wolf and the FSM research group is hoping for.

Dr Wolf is on leave from the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in Paris to the Paris Observatory, where they are conducting experiments using a sapphire clock developed at UWA to measure light velocity with respect to an atomic clock. The experiment examines the effect of the Earth’s motion on the speed of light with exquisite accuracy. The French-Australian collaboration already reports a precision 70 times greater than results from previous experiments anywhere in the world. It took 500 days for his team to collect enough data to work with, because the experiment was reliant on the earth’s rotation once every 24 hours.

At UWA, the experiment will be carried out using two sapphire clocks placed at right angles and rotated inside a specifically designed piece of equipment once every ten seconds. It could mean the Perth partners will get some results more quickly than their French counterparts. But it could take months – even years – to get the desired outcome.

“We are experimentalists: if we get a result, we hope that a physics theorist will come along and work out how we got it, as Einstein did for Michelson and Morley,” A/Professor Tobar said. “Already, theories that try to unify all fundamental forces of nature suggest that Lorentz invariance may be broken due to high energy processes in the early universe just after the big bang, and these experiments are amongst the most promising for detecting such violations”.

Dr Wolf said that any local experiment was independent of velocity. It was like bouncing a ball or smoking a cigarette in a moving train. The ball still bounces up when it hits the floor and the cigarette smoke rises up, regardless of whether the train is moving forwards or backwards, slowly or fast. “According to Lorentz invariance, a local experiment cannot tell you if you have a constant velocity in relation to the universe. In this local experiment, we will be measuring the speed of light in two different directions, to search for an effect of our motion through the universe which would violate Lorentz invariance.”
The value and significance of the extremely positive assessment by the Australian Universities Quality Agency of The University of Western Australia should not be underestimated. While we can be justifiably proud of the stamp of quality and professionalism given to us by AUQA, a key benefit is our active participation in this major exercise of external performance assessment.

Not many organisations of our scale and importance to the community either get (or make) the time to take a ‘slice’ through their operations from top to bottom at any given time. The agency’s report provides us with an important check point in relation to our mission and our strategies and plans at a very important moment in higher education Australia.

UWA has clearly been measured as a University of substance over style: a university that is continuing to make a significant contribution to the State and to the future of young West Australians. It has been commended as a provider of high quality teaching and research with good outcomes and high morale among staff and students. It is a welcome affirmation of our standing within the higher education sector and importantly within the broader community that we serve.

I am particularly pleased with acknowledgment of the good outcomes, high performance culture and professionalism of UWA. It is recognition that we are continually moving to enhance and improve our performance in line with our mission of serving the State and the community. As with many organisations, aspects of coordination and areas of duplication at the micro level of management can always be improved upon. AUQA’s recommendations generally relate to actions already initiated by the University.

AUQA recognised that we have traditionally enjoyed conspicuous success as a University that allows high levels of autonomy to faculties and that encourages individual excellence and we are now working to increase emphasis on encouraging multi-disciplinary research and collaborative research programs.

UWA’s student entry scores rank amongst the highest nationally and internationally. This is indicative of the University’s reputation for scholarship, and is instrumental in subsequent student success. I was pleased that AUQA acknowledged our recognition that entry scores alone do not ensure quality learning. As the report says we are in the process of changing our approach to teaching and learning towards an outcomes based education pedagogy and greater use of flexible learning methods. It also acknowledged that UWA has had ‘notable success in developing an approach to teaching and learning that makes professional studies accessible to Indigenous students.’

The agency commends UWA for developing a culture highly conducive to individual research, and for the new strategy of developing themes and fledgling centres as a means towards an outcomes based education pedagogy and greater use of flexible learning methods. It also acknowledged that UWA has had ‘notable success in developing an approach to teaching and learning that makes professional studies accessible to Indigenous students.’

I would like to congratulate all staff on this outstanding outcome and express my thanks to all who participated in the process and contributed to the University’s submission. The full text of the report can be found at: http://www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/sai_reports/index.shtml

Professor Alan Robson
Vice-Chancellor
It is hard to believe that the vivid colours of the new ‘painted window’ at QEII are all taken directly from paintings of the sky.

Along with every conceivable shade of blue are pinks, oranges, bronzy browns and even the yellow hues of polluted skies.

The window, six panels of laminated glass, about three metres high, has just been installed in the entrance foyer of G Block. It is the creation of Fine Arts lecturer Penny Bovell (pictured right) and honours student, Brigitta Hupfell. They were commissioned by the hospital to make a piece of public art for the newly refurbished emergency centre, and the management was so delighted with the result that they have found more space to transform.

The extended commission will encompass four artworks: two large windows using a digital imaging process, and two wall panels made from silk-screened terrazzo. Images of the sky and ground are linked by a ‘narrative’ that metaphorically takes those waiting in the emergency centre on a walk through Kings Park.

“In 1989 the State Government established the Percent for Art Scheme where one percent of the budget of all new public buildings is spent on art. This has been fantastic for artists …”

Ms Bovell has concentrated on painting the sky for many years. When commissioned to design the window, she decided to enlarge and digitalise some of her small painting studies.

“A lot of research goes into these projects. Spatial qualities need to be understood along with sensitivity to social and cultural perspectives. We won this tender because we thoroughly researched the concepts suitable for this type of space while remaining true to our own artistic interests. At its most ideal the aspirations of the public art program can reflect the rigorous type of research expected at an honours level. It is students who will eventually be pushing the limits of innovation for this scheme.”

Public art also provides the opportunity to be innovative with materials. For example, this is the first time this digital process and glass laminating technology has been used in Perth. The image is protected from damage and the laminating strengthens the glass and allows for a range of opacities.

“Using glass as a visual surface is a great way of incorporating art in public buildings that are often already visually complex,” Ms Bovell said.

A new technique of silk screening onto concrete is being developed by Concreto, a local terrazzo company, and trialled for this project.

Ms Bovell has concentrated on painting the sky for many years. When commissioned to design the window, she decided to enlarge and digitalise some of her small painting studies.

“I wanted to retain the tactility of a painting, rather than go for a photographic representation of the sky,” she said.

“People in an emergency department could be feeling frustration, anxiety, boredom, fear or all of these emotions. The window just sits quietly in the background and gives the visitors the feeling of looking up at the sky. The combined effect of all the artworks evokes movement. We used images of walking to create a sense of relief from having to sit still: to provide a way of moving through anxieties, as people in hospitals generally have to sit and wait. In doing so we hope that the art will be contemplative and calming.”

The project is due for completion in the next couple of weeks.
Last summer, there were more than 1,400 cases of Ross River virus reported in WA — a record. But without the work of the Arbovirus Surveillance and Research Laboratory at UWA, it could have been many more.

"Of course you can’t put a number on it, and it’s impossible to know just how effective we are, but we do know our work has an impact on WA’s public health," said Dr Cheryl Johansen, who, with Dr Annette Broom, runs the research laboratory in Microbiology, in the School of Biomedical and Chemical Sciences.

The lab, with about eight staff and with Head of Discipline Professor Geoff Shellam and Dr David Smith (Clinical Director of the Path Centre) at the helm, is funded by the State Department of Health to run state-wide surveillance programs to monitor medically important mosquito-borne viruses.

An independent review of the lab and their program was carried out by an eminent arbovirologist, Professor Charles Calisher from Colorado State University, a few years ago.

“He said our program was one of the best in the world and that there was no doubt we would be reducing the number of cases of mosquito-borne disease in WA," Dr Broom said.

Senior scientific officers Dr Johansen and Dr Broom continuously monitor mosquitoes in the south-west and other areas of the state for Ross River and Barmah Forest viruses.

They trap mosquitoes every fortnight in summer and once a month in winter, between Mandurah and Dunsborough, then bring them back to their laboratory at QEII, identify the species

Continued on next page
"Our north-west is so vast that it is often impossible for local authorities to carry out fogging or larval control and it’s even difficult to get word to outlying communities to take the necessary precautions," Dr Broom said. "So I initiated a pictorial warning system for the people in Aboriginal communities who may not be able to understand conventional warnings, and the regional public health units send them out."

Dr Broom recently completed a postgraduate diploma in Aboriginal health and has worked towards developing programs to help keep their communities safe from mosquito-borne disease.

She said there were outbreaks in the Kimberley of what they believe was Murray River encephalitis as far back as 1918, when it was called Australian X disease.

“Our laboratory was set up by Professor Neville Stanley in 1972 when the Ord River was dammed near Kununurra and the risk of Murray Valley encephalitis and Kunjin virus (which is similar but generally causes a milder illness) increased. “We were initially funded by both the Commonwealth and the State Governments until 1985/86 when the Commonwealth pulled out and the State took over and expanded the program,” she said.

“If our surveillance can prevent just one case of Murray Valley encephalitis in a child (children are most at risk in endemic areas), then it’s worth it, when you consider that the disease, if it doesn’t kill the child, may mean severe brain damage and hospitalisation for life," she said.

Dr Broom said that about one in a thousand people bitten by a virus-carrying mosquito contracted Murray Valley encephalitis. “Of them, 25 per cent die and up to 50 per cent of survivors may suffer from severe brain damage." As well as looking for activity of indigenous mosquito-borne viruses, Dr Broom and Dr Johansen look for potential exotic mosquitoes on their annual field trip north.

“The potentially fatal Japanese encephalitis was first identified in the Torres Strait in 1995 and in north Queensland in 1998. Dr Johansen, whose PhD concentrated on the disease, said the mosquitoes carrying the virus may have been brought to Australia on wind currents from New Guinea.
Justice Henry Higgins’ name is synonymous, in industrial relations, with achieving a fair and reasonable wage for Australian workers early last century.

But Dr Ian vanden Driesen, a senior research fellow in organisational and labour studies, says that a Western Australian judge, Justice Burnside, should be remembered alongside Justice Higgins, for his ruling on workers’ conditions.

“I feel Justice Burnside went a lot further than Higgins,” Dr vanden Driesen said. “He negotiated holidays and tobacco allowances for workers and even went so far as to talk about a healthy diet for a working man. But he has been largely forgotten in the labour history of Australia. I feel that if he had lived in a different state he would have been recognised.”

Justice Burnside: A Judge Ahead of His Time is one of five chapters that ‘fill in the gaps’ in the labour history of WA in Dr vanden Driesen’s latest book.

His book is called Filling in the Gaps: Five Essays on the Labour History of Western Australia and is Dr vanden Driesen’s fifth publication since he retired 13 years ago, and became a research fellow in the faculty of Economics and Commerce.

“It was while I was researching the previous book, Essays on Immigration Policy and Population in Western Australia, that I came across lots of gaps, and this latest book fills them in,” he said.

“Most of the historical writing about Australia concentrates on the post-Federation period. There is not much written before 1901 that is not romantic tales of explorers and settlers.

“For example, few people would know that the original Australian masters and servants laws were developed in the colony of Western Australia. And we were the first state to employ arbitration, during the lumpers’ strike of 1899. Justice Burnside became the first head of the Arbitration Court in WA.”

Dr vanden Driesen said there was a “slight religious tinge” in the early trade union movement in WA. “There was a feeling that it was a Christian society and there were standards to which all Christians should adhere. Now, the union movement is much more embroiled with politics than religion.”

Other chapters in the book look at the evolution of the trade union movement; the Masters and Servants laws; the lumper’s strike and reconciliation on the waterfront; and the coming of employers’ liability.

“It took a lot of argument to get employers to accept liability for their workers. Up until then, it was a case of ‘You only have yourself to blame!’

Dr vanden Driesen came to UWA from Africa 34 years ago, after working in universities in his homeland of Sri Lanka, the UK, the US and Nigeria. He says he is still tied to his homeland by food and cricket. Famous Sri Lankan cooks Charmaine Solomon and Geoff Jansz feature in a coffee table book he edited with his wife, Cynthia vanden Driesen, in 2000, to celebrate 50 years of Sri Lankan-Australian interactions.

His next book is likely to focus on The Westralian Worker, a newspaper that was published for 51 years, spanning the 19th and early 20th centuries, which made use of poetry, doggerel and jingles to get messages across to its readers.

James joins

Patients who check into Fremantle Hospital might recognise the young doctor who helps to look after them.

He wears the crumpled green uniform of an intern and patiently but cheerfully goes about his work with the nametag Dr James Fitzpatrick around his neck.

Dr Fitzpatrick was Young Australian of the Year a couple of years ago, winning the award for his work in the area of rural health. He is still dedicated to raising awareness of the need for a greater commitment by young doctors to rural practice.

But while he is working out his internship at Fremantle Hospital, he has added another cause to his already heavy load of work and commitments: he is campaigning to get sixth year medical students to come and work in Fremantle.

Dr Fitzpatrick took seven years to complete his own degree in medicine because, as Young Australian of the Year, he had speaking tours and commitments across Australia.

But now that he is back to medicine full-time, he says he is so pleased that he chose to start his professional career at Fremantle Hospital.
Until early one Monday morning in March, the highlight of Tom Barratt’s blossoming cricket career was a score of 128-not out for a local junior team.

At 7am that Monday came the call from the Bradman Foundation, to tell the first year Law/Economics student that he was the Bradman Scholar for 2004. The scholarship, worth $15,000 over three years, is for a full-time university student with a deep commitment to the game of cricket, as well as an excellent academic record. Only one is awarded each year throughout Australia and Tom is the first West Australian to win for more than ten years.

“I saw the scholarship on the UWA website about October last year, but I didn’t do anything about it until just before applications closed in February. I was amazed that I won it. I feel so privileged,” he said.

Tom has been involved in cricket all his life, playing for his local team, Leeming, then graduating to the WACA competition, in which he plays B grade for Melville 17-year-olds, batting at number three. He coaches and umpires junior cricket, which means that the sport dominates his summer weekends, with junior matches on Friday nights and senior matches on Saturdays and sometimes Sundays as well.

But he loves it. Tom says he and his father are ‘cricket tragics’ and that he would love to play professional cricket one day if he was good enough. He has captained his Melville team for the past two years and represented the State in January, when WA came third in the national competition. His best score in the WACA competition is 100-not out.

The Bradman Foundation looks for a student who is involved in the wider community, as well as the cricketing world. Tom is a member of the United Nations Youth Organisation and was a WA delegate to the UNYA national conference last year. He is also the education officer on the Economics students’ committee.

The Foundation flew him to Bowral, Bradman headquarters, to be presented with his scholarship last month.

“Fremantle offers medical interns terrific educational activities, and it has great facilities and diverse services,” he said.

“It is also located in the heart of one of WA’s most historic and cosmopolitan towns. Socially, it’s a great place to be, with cafes, bars and restaurants just a few minutes walk from the hospital.

“And what a great working environment. We have ocean views and an excellent community spirit. The people are friendly and the working conditions are second to none.”

Dr Fitzpatrick has been a champion of SPINRPHEX, the rural health club for students in the health disciplines. He is still heavily involved with the club and, for years, he juggled this with his full-time study, then added local and national community representative roles. He also runs a mentoring program for young people, aged between 10 and 17, in rural communities.

He is keen for medical students to consider Fremantle for their internship rather than heading straight for one of the teaching hospitals closer to the University.
Two Perth collectors who have developed a passion for Indonesian works of art are sharing their collections with visitors to the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

Chris Hill and Elizabeth Scott were both ‘hooked’, at different times and in different places in Indonesia, by local art, which has changed their lives.

The centerpiece of Chris and Mary’s collection is a big temple cloth, painted with natural dyes in 1939 but still retaining all the vividness of the original colours.

“I found it folded up in an art shop in Ubud and took it to a dalang (puppet master) who was able to translate the ancient Balinese writing on it and identify it as a temple cloth. Once again, I went hunting to find the artist and was delighted to find he was still alive.”

They plan to donate the temple cloth to a public gallery.

Elizabeth Scott’s collection of Indonesian batiks and woven fabrics began a decade before Chris Hill’s discovery of Balinese art.

“I went to Indonesia because my partner was working there and I suppose my interest started because I didn’t want to be a bored expat housewife. Learning about batiks and starting to collect them began as a project to ‘locate me’,” she said.

It has ended up as much broader project, with Elizabeth studying geography in the School of Earth and Geographical Sciences.

Curator Janice Baker said that the more you looked at the batik collection, the more you could identify different designs and motifs as belonging to different villages and regions.

Most of them are from the early and mid-20th century and they are nearly all created using natural vegetable dyes.

During her ten years in Indonesia, Elizabeth watched a lot of batik work created and described one method of beating cloth with a wooden hammer to soften it so it would absorb the dyes.

“I watched him sitting on his mat, mixing black Chinese ink in coconut shells, which he then applied with home-made bamboo brushes and pens. I was hooked!”

Their passions have led them to learn to speak Indonesian and to do further study relating to the art in which they have immersed themselves. Elizabeth has recently submitted her PhD on Indonesian-Australian relations and says that she learned her geography through Indonesian textiles. Chris has completed a masters degree focussing on three generations of artists from the one village in Bali and has turned his thesis into a book, due to be published next year.

About eight years ago, Chris and his wife Mary were on one of their frequent trips to Bali when a painting in a hotel in Ubud caught his eye. “After many holidays in Bali, this was the first thing that really captured me,” he said.

“I wrote down the name of the artist and his village and went to find him. I was invited into his family compound, and watched him sitting on his mat, mixing black Chinese ink in coconut shells, which he then applied with homemade bamboo brushes and pens. I was hooked! At that stage, I couldn’t speak Indonesian and he couldn’t speak English, but we got on really well, and this passion developed from that day.”

**Threading Cultures** will bring back memories of holidays in Bali and other parts of Indonesia. It is in the gallery until June 23.

When students go abroad to study, they usually want an environment that’s very different from home, but where they can speak English.

Canada is a popular destination, but Singapore is too close to home and too familiar. These are some of the impressions students gave the Study Abroad and Student Exchange office, when they ran their first Study Abroad Fair in the Guild Village.

Milly Ingate, manager of the office, said the organisers spoke to many students who had not been aware that Study Abroad existed. “And we had some academics who were interested too, so that was great,” she said.

Exchange programs and study abroad opportunities in the US, the UK, Singapore, Canada, Scandinavia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Malaysia, South Africa, Scandinavia and other European countries were all represented in the lunchtime information fair.

Professor Ian Coulter, from the University of California at Los Angeles was at the fair and said that exchange programs were running at eight of the university’s ten campuses in California.

“Because our weather and language are similar, some Australian students like to come here, but I think more of them choose Canada for the experience of cold and snow,” he said.

Canadian exchange students Joanna Makowska, Merete Kristiansen and Sharman Morley said they were loving the warm weather and sunshine of Perth while two of them were studying biology and one of them was doing a year in human movement.

The were on the Canada stall, extolling the virtues of their universities, McGill, Simon Fraser and British Columbia, and other Canadian universities, to UWA students.

Ms Ingate said: “Next time, I’ll try to get more people from the overseas universities by co-ordinating our event with similar events at universities in the eastern states or even those in WA, so it makes it worthwhile for them to come here.”

Last year UWA hosted 136 exchange students from overseas and 121 of our students studied abroad. So far this year, 80 students have come to UWA for first semester and 33 have travelled to study overseas.
The last word

Promoting the committee

In the two-and-a-half years that I have been on the Promotions and Tenure Committee, I have been promoted from sceptic to supporter, and became Chair in January this year.

In my time on the Committee I have come to very much respect the criteria and processes under which the Committee operates.

The fundamental consideration in the Committee’s deliberations is academic merit, and that influences all aspects of the Committee’s workings. Resource considerations do not enter into our deliberations. We make our recommendations to the Vice-Chancellor based on academic considerations, not availability of resources. Indeed the Committee has overruled departments when they have cited resource considerations as going against promotion. To my knowledge the Vice-Chancellor has never rejected a recommendation for promotion on resource grounds.

The ability to make a recommendation based on academic merit when applications come from all parts of University is greatly assisted by the views of independent expert assessors. We also take into account the advice of the Head of School, the Dean, and the views of other senior members of the discipline.

When I first joined the Committee I was sceptical of the ability of such a central committee to make decisions with respect to a particular discipline. But my experience has indicated to me that the role of expert assessor, and guidance of the Head of School and Dean makes it possible and also desirable. The committee relies on the Head of School not only to be as fair, but also as candid, as possible. A failure in the Head of School, in particular, to be as candid as appropriate can in exceptional cases deprive the committee of a valuable source of advice.

The Committee pays deliberate and careful regard to the criteria set out for promotion to each level. It is therefore incumbent on the applicant to ensure that those criteria are addressed. The views of independent expert assessors are based upon those criteria. The Secretary to the Committee, Elizabeth Hutchinson, is always extremely helpful in the preparation of applications and in providing information on the process. The Centre for Staff Development holds an annual workshop in August dealing with Preparing to Apply for Academic Staff Promotion. If an applicant requires further help feel free to contact me by e-mail.

Applications can be lodged throughout the year for consideration of the Committee’s monthly meetings (except January). The continuous nature of the application process results in a cooperative rather than competitive environment for applications. Applicants are not considered to be in competition with each other, unlike applicants in an appointment process. The cooperative nature of the application process is critical in the context of applications founded primarily on teaching performance, because of course teaching performance is notoriously difficult to evaluate and demonstrate. It relies significantly on colleagues to adjudge that performance.

Promotion can of course be secured primarily on the basis of teaching or research. Such a focus on teaching is unusual in the context of the major universities in Australia and enables the establishment of a culture which respects quality teaching. The Committee welcomes applications based primarily on teaching performance. Service to the University and the outside community is, of course, also a consideration.

Since 1994 applications have been made through the promotion process to every level including Professor. This has been critical in ensuring that the university retains quality staff. No staff member should feel the need to go to another institution in order to secure promotion. Indeed we have a special process, termed the fast track process, which seeks to ensure that the committee can rapidly make a recommendation for promotion where a staff member receives an offer of appointment from elsewhere.

The Committee intends to reinstate the publication of the successful results of applications for promotion, emphasising the reasons for success. The Committee seeks to ensure that staff members’ achievements are recognised whether they are in teaching or research or both. An inevitable aspect of such publicity will be a reinforcement of a culture directed towards quality in either teaching or research or both. The announcements will appear in forthcoming issues of UWAnews.
New bank old name

For the first time, a full banking service is available right on campus.

Westpac has upgraded its agency in the Guild Village to a fully operational branch, with a financial planner, home finance manager and all the other services you would expect from a bank off campus. Theresa Goulson, the home finance manager for both the University branch and the Nedlands branch, said the University agency used to close at lunchtime because there were not enough staff to keep it open. Now, it is open all day from 9.30am to 4pm and 5pm on Fridays.

University staff and students are encouraged to call in and meet the new manager, Mike Warren, and the rest of the bank staff. They are happy to make appointments for customers outside the usual Monday to Friday hours, if necessary.

Westpac Banking Corporation (which has recently changed back to its old name, from Challenge Bank) was a major sponsor of Orientation Day this year and hopes to stay involved with university activities.

Evensong at the Collegiate Chapel of St George

Evensong is the most particularly Anglican service in all of Christian worship.

The service has been sung daily since 1550 in Cathedrals, colleges, chapels and other Anglican houses of worship.

Originating from the monastic “hours”, it consists of the distinctive parts of the ancient office of Vespers and Compline.

The Magnificat, the canticle appointed for Vespers, and the Nunc Dimittis for Compline.

The service begins at 5:30pm on 3 June 2004 in St George’s College Chapel and will be sung by the Georgian Occasional Choir who also sing at St George’s Cathedral when the Cathedral Choir is away.

The choir traditionally offers certain portions so that our devotions may be enhanced by music, while the congregation joins in the hymns. Evensong as a service has emerged as a liturgy of rare and mystical beauty in which the Word is illuminated by music.

You are invited to find an oasis of peace in your busy world by listening to this offer of beauty to the Giver of all beauty. All people, all faiths, are welcome here today. You may join in the singing or just appreciate the beauty of the music and the setting.

For more information contact Fr Braden on 9449 5555.

The Warman Competition is a design-and-build competition

organised centrally for Australia and New Zealand by Engineers Australia. Students design and build machines to satisfy a detailed competition brief. At this public event, students will demonstrate their machines. The group presenting the best machine, as measured by a scoring formula, will receive a free trip to attend the National Finals in Sydney. The competition is a very enjoyable event because usually some machines work — brilliantly — and others are not so successful.

All are welcome and free sausages and cans of drink will be provided after the event, courtesy of the School of Mechanical Engineering.

More information may be seen at:
http://www.mech.uwa.edu.au/courses/ED207/warman/

Questions and comments to:
Dr Nathan Scott, Lecturer, School of Mechanical Engineering
EMAIL: nscott@mech.uwa.edu.au
PHONE: +61 8 6488 3761  FAX: +61 8 6488 1024
Tuesday 18 May

MARINE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SEMINAR
‘Global seagrass monitoring’, Fred Short, Jackson Estuarine Lab, University of New Hampshire. 4pm, Room 119, School of Water Research.

Wednesday 19 May

ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMIC SEMINAR
‘Large eddy simulation of the atmospheric boundary layer over steep terrain’, Robert Street, Environmental Fluid Mechanics Laboratory, Stanford University. 4pm, Blakers Lecture Room, Ground Floor, Mathematics Building.

PUBLIC LECTURE/INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES
‘The memoirs of Evariste Galois’, Dr Peter Neumann, Fellow and Praelector in Mathematics at Queen’s College, and Lecturer in the University of Oxford. 6.30pm, Social Sciences Lecture Theatre.

Thursday 20 May

FREE LUNCHEON CONCERT
University Brass Ensemble conducted by Darryl Poulsen. Concert includes works by Gabrieli and Copland. 1.10pm, Winthrop Hall.

Friday 21 May

CLINICAL RESEARCH IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY SEMINAR
‘Transplantation and gene therapy in central nervous system repair’, Professor Alan Harvey, Anatomy and Human Biology. 3.30pm, Centre for Clinical Research in Neuropsychiatry, Seminar Room 3, Gascoyne House, Graylands Hospital.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SEMINAR
‘Social movements, organisation and culture: towards a theory of institutional reflexivity’, Dr Greg Martin. 12.30pm, Resource Room SS1237, First Floor, Social Sciences South Building.

Monday 24 May

ASTHMA AND ALLERGY RESEARCH SEMINAR
‘Neural protection and regeneration in the injured central nervous system’, Professor Alan Harvey, Anatomy and Human Biology. 12.30pm, Joske Seminar Room, Medicine, Fourth Floor, G Block, SCGH.

Tuesday 25 May

ANATOMY AND HUMAN BIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Sexual selections: what we can and can’t learn about sex from animals’, Professor Marlene Zuk, Department of Biology, University of California Riverside.

Friday 28 May

CLIMA SEMINAR
‘Potential of lupin protein in replacing soy protein in food and feed formulations’, Dr Vijay Jayasena, Curtin University; ‘Lupin product development’, Sofie Sipsas. 4pm, CLIMA Seminar Room.

CLINICAL RESEARCH IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY SEMINAR
‘Human evolution ecology: early stress predicts age at menarche, first birth, adult attachment and expected lifespan’, Professor Jim Chisholm, Anatomy and Human Biology. 3.30pm, Centre for Clinical Research in Neuropsychiatry, Seminar Room 3, Gascoyne House, Graylands Hospital.

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY TALK
‘Understanding contemporary Indonesia’, Max Lane, Research Fellow, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University. 1pm, LWAG.

ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR
‘Recovering the voice of poor rural women in Indonesia’, Rasita Purba. 1pm, G.25 Seminar Room, Ground Floor, Social Sciences Building.

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Festival lunch

What did you love about this year’s Perth International Art Festival?

What did you hate?

And what would you like to see more of next year?

At this month’s University House Members’ Lunch, you will have the chance to hear how the Festival is created: what effort and research goes into decisions and choices.

Lindy Hume, revived after delivering her first Festival over the summer, is the guest speaker at the second bi-monthly Members’ Lunch.

She is always a popular speaker, so book a table now for the lunch on

**Wednesday 26 May**

**Lunch starts at 12 noon and Lindy will speak at 12.45pm.**

Those with limited time can arrive just before her address and their meal will be served immediately following it. Please make these arrangements when booking your table.

The Member’s Lunch is $25 for members and $30 for their guests. Bookings can be made on 6488 2662 in office hours or by email, unihouse@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

Organisational and Staff Development Services announces that the following staff have been awarded General Staff Development Grants.

- Dr Lindsay Byrne, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, Chemistry, ‘Sixth Biennial Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Magnetic Resonance’ $700
- Mr Gary Cass, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, Student Labs ‘TECHTRAIN 2004 Conference’ $650
- Mr Ross Comstock, Registrar’s Office, Publications Unit, ‘Open Publish 2004 Conference’ $750
- Mrs Elizabeth Halladin, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, Student Labs ‘TECHTRAIN 2004 Conference’ $565
- Mrs Rhonda Haskell, Registrar’s Office, Postgraduate Student Office, ‘Australian Development Scholarship Conference’ $446
- Ms Josephine Hocking, Registrar’s Office, Student Services, ‘Business Competencies for Information Professionals’ $220
- Ms Jane Long, Library, Biol.Sciences Library, ‘AVCC Leadership Programme for Middle Managers’ $750
- Ms Trudi McGlade, Registrar’s Office, University Secretariat, ‘Administrative Law I and II (UWA Extension)’ $300
- Mr Hai Thanh Ngo, Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences, Plant Biology, ‘TECHTRAIN 2004 Conference’ $390
- Mr Toivo Pedaste, Finance and Resources Office, University Communications Service, ‘18th APAN Meeting - Questnet 2004’ $750
- Mr Robert Roche, Registrar’s Office, Research Grants Office, ‘Structured Visit to National Health and Medical Research Centre’ $300
- Mr Thomas Sputore, Registrar’s Office, Student Services, ‘Aust and New Zealand Student Services Assoc. Conference’, $606
- Mr Damyon Wiese, Centre for Advancement of Teaching and Learning, ‘RH300 - RHCE Rapid Track Training and Certification Course’ $750
HOUSE EXCHANGE
HOUSE EXCHANGE wanted in Perth/Fremantle area from (approx.) mid-October to mid-December 2004. We are an academic couple who plan to visit UWA for 5–6 weeks in October to December this year, and are interested in a house exchange. Our home in Oxford was built in early 19th century in North Parade Avenue, a quiet street with many amenities, about 10 minutes walk from the city centre or the science area. It is on three floors and has two bathrooms (one with power shower, one with bath), two bedrooms (one double, one single), living room, dining room, two offices, and large fully-equipped kitchen (gas stove, microwave, dishwasher). Full gas central heating plus gas fires. There is a small garden. We are non-smokers. We do not have children, but could exchange with a visiting family with children. Similarly, we do not have pets, but would be willing to look after a pet. Car exchange also possible. References available from UWA colleagues. Enquiries to Professor Dorothy Bishop: dori.th.bishop@psy.ox.ac.uk. Phone: 44 (0)1865 512834.

HOUSESITTER
Responsible staff member available for house sitting in any area near UWA from June 2004. Short or long term. References can be supplied. Email: zetamcdy@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.

FOR RENT
THREE BEDROOM HOME, fully self-catering, linen available on request. Pool, indoor spa, tennis court, etc. Close to cafes, shopping, library; 10 minutes drive to city, beach, UWA. Ideal for visiting academics with one bedroom currently set up as a spacious study. Available to non-smoking tenants from mid-August 2004 to end January 2005. Photos available on request. $300/week. Contact Andrew Rase, andrew.rase@uwa.edu.au, 6488 2300 (w), 9182 3064 (h).

NEDLANDS, large house, ideal for visiting academic’s family. 3 bedrooms, 2 studies, 2 baths, small yard, less than 5 minutes bike ride to UWA campus. Short walk to Hampden St shops and bus stops, and 2 minutes to King’s Park and bus stops, and 2 minutes to King’s Park (bushland and recreation). Fully furnished with kitchen fittings and utensils, linen, heating, etc. Owner will be away in Singapore from early July 2004 to early July 2005, so looking for a one-year tenant, if possible. Asking $400 per week; bills for electricity, gas, water, telephone will be tenant’s responsibility. Email: acctiol@cyllene.uwa.edu.au; ph: 9386 7183.

WANTED TO RENT
MINIMUM THREE BEDROOM HOUSE needed for visiting medical academic family from end of June 2004 to end of July 2005 in Nedlands. Garden preferred, not required to be furnished. Please contact Christophe von Garnier: christophe@chr.uwa.edu.au or home 9386 1435 or mobile 04 2708 7334.

FOR SALE
THREE BEDROOM HOME fully furnished and equipped including linen. Recently refurbished including new kitchen and reverse-cycle air-con. Located in a quiet street in Daglish, 5km from UWA, handy to buses or 15–20 minutes cycling. Close to cafes, shopping, library; 10 minutes drive to city, beach, UWA. Available 28 June to 19 September, 2004. Cost $350/week. Contact sandra@cyllene.uwa.edu.au; 9346 4849.

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Responsible staff member available for house sitting in any area near UWA from June 2004. Short or long term. References can be supplied. Email: zetamcdy@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.

FOR SALE
1991 HOLDEN APOLLO (CAMRY), 4 dr. sedan, a/c, p/s, automatic., immob/alarm, rego through Sept. Complete maintenance history, RAC insp. in January, report available. 217K., very good condition. Available mid-June. $4000 ono. Email: bgreenstein@cornellcollege.edu.

TROMBONE, Conn 78H, Bflat/F trigger, medium bore. Beautiful instrument in top condition, only 2 years old. $2500 ono. Tlm lorna.robertson@uwa.edu.au or phone Lorna, Nick or Sam at home on 9332 8675.

WANTED
POWERLAB 4 CHANNEL SYSTEM needed. We would like to obtain or even borrow. If anyone has a redundant one that they might like to sell please contact jereew@obdrm.uwa.edu.au or phone 9340 1325.